

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
EB-08 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /075 W
-----008878 101138Z /14

R 091050Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6090
INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

CONFIDENTIAL BANGKOK 16700

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEAN, TH, EFIN
SUBJ: US-ASEAN MINISTERIAL MEETING - THAILAND FONMIN VIEWS

1. DURING AMB'S FAREWELL ON FONMIN UPPADIT, HE RAISED SUBJECT OF US ASEAN MINISTERIAL MEETING. UPPADIT NOTED THAT ASEAN DECISION WOULD BE MADE DURING JUNE 14-16 PATTAYA MEETING AND CONVEYED IMMEDIATELY TO THE USG.

2. AS IN THE PAST UPPADIT TOOK CAUTIOUS, MILDLY NEGATIVE VIEW WITH REGARD TO TIMING OF MEETING, NOTING HIS OWN EARLIER INTEREST IN SCHEDULING SESSION DURING UNGA AND LIKELIHOOD MEETING WOULD HAVE NO CONCRETE RESULTS. AMB POINTED OUT SIGNIFICANT PUBLIC AFFAIRS ADVANTAGES ACCRUING TO MEETING IN EARLY AUGUST AND OUR HOPE THAT SUCH A MEETING WOULD FOCUS HIGH LEVEL US CONGRESSIONAL AND BUSINESS ATTENTION ON ASEAN AND ITS POTENTIAL. IN THAT CONTEXT HE POINTED OUT THAT ANY MINISTERIAL MEETING DURING UNGA WOULD BE LOST DURING MAJOR ACTIVITIES SURROUNDING UNGA AND OTHER BILATERAL MEETINGS INVOLVING THE US. WHILE NOT CONVINCED UPPADIT DID SEEM RESIGNED TO ACCEPTANCE OF AUG 3-4 DATES.

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3. ON QUESTION OF MINISTERIAL REPRESENTATION, UPPADIT COMMENTED AGAIN ON DIFFICULTY OF GATHERING ALL FORNMINISTERS AT ONE TIME IN AUG. AMB TOOK OCCASION TO POINT OUT THAT WE DID NOT ENVISION MEETING SOLELY INVOLVING FORNMINISTERS. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT SOME OF THE OTHER PARTICIPANTS MIGHT BE SENDING SENIOR ECONOMIC MINISTERS GIVEN FACT THAT SO MUCH OF SUBSTANCE

OF US-ASEAN DIALOGUE RELATES TO ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL MATTERS.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH UPPADIT CLEARLY REMAINS UNCONVINCED OF
UTILITY OF US-ASEAN WASHINGTON MINISTERIAL MEETING, HE GAVE
IMPRESSION THAT HE IS IN FACT RESIGNED TO GOING AHEAD WITH
MINISTERIAL IN AUG. HE ALSO APPEARED TO BE PONDERING THE
POSSIBILITY OF A MINISTER OTHER THAN HIMSELF ATTENDING.

WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decapton Date: 01 jan 1960
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